



**INTEGRAL
UNIVERSITY**

LUCKNOW - INDIA

A+ ACCREDITED
BY NAAC



DEPARTMENT OF LANGUAGES

Literary Society

TWO DAY NATIONAL CONFERENCE

ON

**REIMAGINING INDIA AND BEYOND :
NARRATIVES OF BELONGING,
DIVERSITY AND COEXISTENCE IN LITERATURE
AND CINEMA (HYBRID MODE)**

29 - 30 APRIL 2026



CONCEPT NOTE

In the twenty-first century, questions of belonging, identity, diversity, and coexistence have acquired renewed urgency within cultural, political, and aesthetic discourses. India, with its layered histories, plural traditions, linguistic multiplicity, and socio-religious diversity, offers a dynamic site for examining how narratives construct, contest, and reconfigure collective identities. At the same time, global movements of migration, diaspora, digital circulation, and transnational exchange compel us to think “beyond” the nation—toward interconnected frameworks of community, memory, and coexistence.

The proposed National Conference, *Reimagining India and Beyond: Narratives of Belonging, Diversity and Coexistence in Literature and Cinema*, seeks to explore how literary texts and visual cultures engage with and reshape the idea of India while situating it within broader global conversations. The term reimagining signals both a critical interrogation of dominant national narratives and an openness to alternative, marginalized, and counter-hegemonic voices. Literature and cinema have long functioned as powerful mediums through which the nation is narrated, visualized, and critiqued. From anti-colonial writings to contemporary films addressing caste oppression, gendered violence, migration, and religious conflict, cultural production continues to negotiate the tensions between unity and plurality. This conference aims to foreground how texts and screens mediate questions such as: Who belongs to the nation? How are identities shaped through language, memory, and representation? How do marginalized communities reclaim space through storytelling? And how can narratives foster ethical models of coexistence? By bringing together scholars of literature, film studies, cultural studies, gender studies, postcolonial theory, and media studies, the Conference aims to create an interdisciplinary dialogue that bridges textual and visual methodologies. Importantly, the phrase “India and Beyond” expands the scope beyond geographical boundaries, encouraging comparative and transnational perspectives. It invites discussions on South Asian diasporic cinema, global adaptations of Indian texts, and cross-cultural solidarities that challenge narrow nationalist frameworks. In doing so, the Conference seeks to promote an inclusive academic space that values multiplicity, dissent, and dialogue.

At a time marked by polarization and identity-based contestations, revisiting narratives of belonging through literature and cinema becomes not merely an academic exercise but an ethical and political necessity. This conference aspires to contribute meaningfully to contemporary debates on democracy, pluralism, and cultural coexistence by foregrounding the transformative power of storytelling.

SUGGESTED THEMES: INCLUDED BUT NOT LIMITED TO

- Nation, Identity, and the Politics of Belonging in Textual and Visual Cultures
- Postcolonial Revisions and Counter-Narratives of the Nation-State
- Gendered Bodies, Feminist Resistance, and Cinematic Subversion
- Caste, Class, and Subaltern Self-Representation
- Religion, Secularism, and the Question of Plural Coexistence
- Partition, Borders, Migration, and Traumatic Memory
- Diasporic Imaginations and Transnational Belonging
- Queer Narratives and Alternative Communities of Care
- Regional Literatures and Cinemas in Global Circulation
- Adaptation, Translation, and Cultural Negotiation
- Global Cinema, web series, OTT

HIGHLIGHTS

- Plenary Address by leading voices in literature and cinema
- Invited Lectures by scholars and creative practitioners
- Interdisciplinary Paper Presentations
- Publication Opportunity in a Peer-Reviewed Edited Volume

CONFERENCE PANELISTS



Dr. Meenakshi Pawha

Professor Emeritus
Department of English &
Modern European Languages
University of Lucknow



Prof. Asim Siddiqui

Professor
Department of English
AMU



Prof. R. P. Singh

Professor
English & Modern European
Languages,
University of Lucknow



Prof. Huma Yaqub

Professor
Department of English &
Incharge MANU
Lucknow Campus



Prof. Arti Nirmal

Professor
Department of English
BHU

WHO CAN APPLY?

RESEARCH SCHOLARS, POST-GRADUATE STUDENTS, FACULTY MEMBERS, INDEPENDENT RESEARCHERS AND CREATIVE PRACTITIONERS.

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

ABSTRACT (250-300 WORDS), 5 KEYWORDS

SINGLE WORD DOCUMENT SUBMISSION WITH NAME, DESIGNATION, INSTITUTIONAL AFFILIATION, EMAIL AND CONTACT NUMBER.

SUBMISSION EMAIL : literarysocietyiul@gmail.com

DEADLINE FOR ABSTRACT : 20 APRIL 2026

NOTIFICATION OF ACCEPTANCE : 22 APRIL 2026

FULL PAPER SUBMISSION : 27 APRIL 2026

ALL SUBMISSIONS WILL UNDERGO PEER REVIEW

REGISTRATION FEE

STUDENTS/ CREATIVE PRACTITIONERS : RS. 500/-

RESEARCH SCHOLARS : RS. 1000/-

FACULTY MEMBERS/ TEACHERS : RS. 1500/-

CHIEF-PATRON



Prof. S.W. Akhtar

FOUNDER & CHANCELLOR
Integral University

PATRONS



Dr. Syed Nadeem Akhtar

Pro-Chancellor
Integral University



Syed M. Fauzan Akhtar

Addl. Pro-Chancellor
Integral University



Syed Adnan Akhtar

Addl. Pro-Chancellor
Integral University



Dr. Nida Fatima

Addl. Pro-Chancellor
Integral University



Prof. Furqan Qamar

Vice - Chancellor
Integral University

TAP TO REGISTER

<https://www.iul.ac.in/frmAdvProgramRegistration.aspx?id=291&n=Two-Day-National-Conference-On-Reimagining-India-and-Beyond-Narratives-of-Belonging-Diversity-and-Coexistence-in-Literature-and-Cinema>

ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

CHIEF ADVISOR

Prof. H.M. Arif

Professor
Head
Department of Languages

CONVENORS

Dr. Arshi Khan

Assistant Professor
Department of Languages
Integral University

Dr. Zeba Rizvi

Assistant Professor
Department of Languages
Integral University

Mr. Mohd. Adeel

Assistant Professor
Department of Languages
Integral University

CORE COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Dr. Eram Fatima | Dr. Sana Haider | Dr. Sana Arshad | Dr. Nikhat Ara | Dr. Fatima Sahrish | Ms. Ravish Fatima

FOR MORE DETAILS CONTACT

Dr. Arshi Khan +91-6392 18 8204 | Arsheen +91-9129 33 5407 | Isra Mustafa +91-8187 92 7216



**INTEGRAL
UNIVERSITY**
LUCKNOW - INDIA

A+ ACCREDITED
BY NAAC

